



Please type a plus sign (+) ins	ide this box -> +	ı
---------------------------------	-------------------	---

July 28,1999

Date

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box -> + Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0032

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

UTILITY **PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL**

Attorney Docket No. KLR 7146.030 First Inventor or Application Identifier Mojgan J. Akhavan Programming

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)) Express Mail Label No. EL168609217US

1. X (Submit an original and a duplicate for the processing) 2. X Specification [Total Pages] 20 1 20 20 20 20 20 20		APPLICATION ELEMENTS thapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.	Assistant Commissioner for Patents ADDRESS TO: Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231		
- Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure 3. X Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 10] 4. Oath or Declaration - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - A. Newly executed (original or copy) - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) - Detailed Description - Statement (1DS)/PTO-1449 - Small Entity - Status still proper and desired - (PTO/SD/09-12) - Status still proper and desired - (PTO/SD/09-12) - Status still proper and desired - (PTO/SD/09-12) - Status still proper and desired - Copy from a prior application, see 37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). More Formewa 1.8. **Smiore from the submitted of Prior application in the amount of \$800 - Certificate of Express Mailing - Copy from a prior application in the company application in the submitted application parts. One Single of the description of the description parts of the prior application from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure	1.	pecification [Total Pages 20] pecification [Total Pages 20] Descriptive title of the Invention Cross References to Related Applications Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D Reference to Microfiche Appendix	Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix) Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) a. Computer Readable Copy b. Paper Copy (identical to computer copy) c. Statement verifying identity of above copies		
16. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment: Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: Group / Art Unit: For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts. 17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS Customer Number or Bar Code Label (Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here) Kevin L. Russell Chernoff Vilhauer McClung & Stenzel, LLP Address One SW Columbia	- E - E - C - A - A - A - A - A - A - A - A - A	Brief Summary of the Invention Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) Detailed Description Claim(s) Abstract of the Disclosure rawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 10] Declaration [Total Pages 3] X Newly executed (original or copy) Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d) (for continuation/divisional with Box 16 completed) i. DELETION OF INVENTOR(s) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).	7. X Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) 8. X (when there is an assignee) X Attorney 9. English Translation Document (if applicable) 10. Information Disclosure Copies of IDS Citations 11. Preliminary Amendment 12. X Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized) * Small Entity Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired 14. Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)		
Name Kevin L. Russell Chernoff Vilhauer McClung & Stenzel, LLP Address 600 Benj. Franklin Plaza One SW Columbia	16. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment: Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: Prior application information: Examiner Group / Art Unit: For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts. 17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS Or Customer Number or Bar Code Label Or Correspondence address below				
One SW Columbia	Name	Kevin L. Russell			
	Address				
City Portland State OR Zip Code 97258	City	Portland State	OR Zip Code 97258		
Country US Telephone 503-227-5631 Fax 503-228-4373	Country	US Telephone 5	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

SYSTEM FOR DISPLAYING PROGRAMMING GUIDE INFORMATION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to displaying electronic programming guide information on a video display, and more particularly to selecting and displaying records of electronic programming guide information having associated times that are different than the initially displayed records.

Electronic programming guides (EPGs) are well known and have been in use for several years. EPGs provide information to television viewers regarding television programming. EPGs typically display information on a video display, such as a television set. The information is characteristically provided in a grid form. Programming information is displayed with horizontal rows containing programs appearing on a particular channel and vertical columns being arranged according to time. An example of such an EPG grid is shown in Young, U.S. Patent No. 5,727,060. The EPG grid generally is comprised of an array of irregular cells, where the cell size can vary from a fraction of an hour to many hours.

An EPG for a television system may be implemented in a variety of fashions. For example, one common implementation of an EPG utilizes a dedicated cable television channel for continuously broadcasting program schedule information. The television viewer tunes a cable converter box or television tuner to the channel on which the EPG information is modulated and views the program listings. Typically, the EPG utilizes a scrolling display of television listings. Some systems employ a partial screen of listings with additional information on the remainder of the screen such as advertisements for movies on pay channels, pay-per-view

10

15

20

25

30

35

event schedules, time and weather information, and/or other commercial information.

There are several problems with the implementation of such an EPG system on a dedicated channel. First, the grid or matrix containing the EPG information must be viewed separately from the programming shown on other channels. Thus, viewers who wish to determine what is on different channels at different times must interrupt their viewing of a program to display the EPG grid. This interrupts the viewing of the program, and is an inconvenience for the viewer. Second, the amount of information displayed is extremely limited. The viewer can only see the programming information for the current time period. The viewer cannot control the display to view programming information at either earlier or later times. Finally, the viewer must wait for the display to scroll to the channels of interest. The relevant information is then only briefly displayed. This can be frustrating for the viewer who must wait for the display to scroll to the channels of interest.

One system has attempted to overcome this difficulty by providing a grid containing EPG information which overlays a video. In this system, a television displays a video simultaneously with a full EPG grid display. This is apparently accomplished by displaying the video on half of the pixels of the screen, and displaying the EPG grid on the other half of the pixels. This display is confusing for the viewer, since it is difficult to view either the video or the EPG grid.

Moreover, this type of EPG grid display still does not allow the viewer to display programming information for times which are earlier or later than the displayed times.

Another type of information display involves the use of information banners. Information banners generally consist of a panel which contains more detailed

10

15

20

25

30

programming guide information than contained in the EPG grid displays. The information banner is generally limited to a single program. The information banner may contain, for example, the channel, the time of the program, the title of the program, a short description of the program, whether the program is close-captioned, whether the program is a repeat, and the rating of the program. In one version of this system, an information banner is displayed at the bottom of the screen when a new channel is selected. The panel is then removed after a certain period of time if the channel is not changed.

In another system, a viewer may scroll through information banners while simultaneously viewing a video on the upper portion of the display. In this system, a viewer may scroll through the information banners for different channels to display information banners for programs showing at the current time. However, the viewer is unable to view information banners corresponding to different times. Thus, this system is limited to providing information relating to programming on other channels at the current time. If a viewer wishes to view programming guide information for different times, then the viewer must resort to interrupting his or her viewing by changing to an EPG grid display.

Thus, there exists a need for an improved display of EPG information. Such a system should allow a viewer to enjoy continuous uninterrupted viewing of a desired video, while at the same time allowing the viewer to peruse the EPG information for different times and for different channels. Further, the system should allow the viewer to conveniently switch back and forth between the information banner and the EPG grid, while nevertheless continuing the viewing enjoyment of the video.

10

15

20

25

30

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A first aspect of the present invention overcomes the drawbacks of the prior art by providing a method for displaying programming information. comprising a plurality of frames is displayed on a portion of a display. A first panel is then displayed in response to a first signal from a user interface. first panel is displayed on another portion of the display simultaneously with the video. The first panel contains information from at least one of a plurality of records. The records contain programming information, each of the records having an associated time and an associated channel. The first panel has an associated time range and an associated range of channels. is selected in response to a second signal from the user interface. A second panel is then displayed simultaneously with the video. The second panel has an associated time range that is different than the associated time range of the first panel and the second panel has an associated range of channels that is the same as the range of channels of the first panel.

In one preferred method, the first and second panels are EPG grids each containing a plurality of cells. In another preferred method, the first and second panels are information banners.

In another aspect of the invention, a method is provided that is the same as the first aspect except the first panel is at least one of an EPG grid and an information banner and the second panel is an EPG grid when the first panel is an information banner and the second panel is an information banner when the first panel is an EPG grid. In this method, the associated range of channels of the first panel is different than the associated range of channels of the second panel.

The present invention has one or more advantages over the prior art. First, the present invention allows a viewer to simultaneously view a video

10

20

25

30

while searching EPG information by time on the display. Thus, the present invention allows a viewer to view programming information on either EPG grids or information banners for earlier or later times than the current time period while continuing uninterrupted viewing of a video. The present invention also allows the viewer to conveniently switch back and forth between information banners and EPG grids.

The foregoing and other features and advantages of the invention will be more readily understood upon consideration of the following detailed description of the invention, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

15 BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows a perspective view of an exemplary display and user interface of the present invention.

FIG. 2 shows an exemplary user interface of the present invention.

FIG. 3 shows a block diagram of an exemplary circuit for the display.

FIGS. 4A and 4B shows a flow diagram of an exemplary method of the present invention.

FIG. 5 shows an exemplary displaying a video and an EPG grid.

FIG. 5A shows an exemplary EPG grid.

FIG. 6 shows another exemplary display displaying a video and an EPG grid.

FIG. 7 shows an exemplary display displaying a video and an information banner.

FIG. 7A shows an exemplary information banner.

FIG. 8 shows another exemplary display displaying a video and another information banner.

FIG. 9 shows an alternative embodiment of a

35 display.

FIG. 10 shows another alternative embodiment of a display.

10

15

20

25

30

35

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to the figures, wherein like numerals refer to like elements, FIG. 1 shows schematically a system 10 having a display 12, a cable 20 and user interface 30. Display 12 is a device capable of displaying a video. As used herein, "video" generally means a plurality of frames which may be in any format, such as interlaced or progressive, and which may be analog or digital. The display may be a television, and is preferably a digital television. Alternatively, the display 12 could be a computer monitor, or any other device capable of displaying a video. In the system shown in 10, the video signals and EPG signals are preferably received via a cable 20. Cable 20 may receive signals from a satellite dish, cable system, a hard drive, a telephone line, a DVD, a CD-ROM, an antenna, the Internet, or any other type of system used for transmitting video and/or EPG signals.

In one preferred embodiment, a user interface 30 is provided which is a remote control unit for controlling the display 12. The user interface 30 sends signals to the display 12 using an infrared signal which is received at an infrared receiver 14 of the display 12. The display 12 has a screen 16 capable of displaying a video 80 from the video signals received from the cable 20. Alternatively, user interface 30 may be a keyboard and could be connected to display 12 using an electrical cable, or user interface 30 could send signals to display 12 using sound waves, radio transmission, a touch screen display 12, or any other suitable communication method.

EPG information may be received through EPG signals entering the display 12 via cable 20. EPG information may be transmitted in a variety of ways. For example, the EPG information may be contained in the vertical blanking interval of the public broadcasting channel, or it may be broadcast separately on its own channel as in a cable system or satellite broadcast

10

15

20

25

30

35

system. Alternatively, EPG information may be transmitted separately from the video signal, such as over the Internet or a telephone line.

In system 10, the user interface 30 controls the display 12. Referring now to FIG. 2, user interface 30 has a number of buttons to control such functions as power, the channel selected, volume, etc. By pressing certain buttons on the user interface 30, the user may control the display of certain EPG information. Guide button 32 allows the user to display a panel which contains an EPG grid 90 on a portion of screen 16. Cursor control buttons 34a,b and 36a,b control movement of a cursor through the EPG grid 90. Information banner button 38 allows the user to display a panel which contains an information banner 100. Overlay button 40 allows an information banner 100 to be displayed simultaneously with the EPG grid 90.

FIG. 3 is a block diagram of an exemplary circuit 50 for displaying EPG information on the display 12 simultaneously with the video. The incoming signal containing both the video and EPG information is received from cable 20 by the tuner and demodulator 54. The EPG information is extracted from the incoming signal with the data receiver 56. Microprocessor 58 selects the appropriate EPG information to display based on user input signals received from the user interface 30. Software within microprocessor 58 determines initial EPG settings based on time of day and current viewing settings. The circuit 50 has an optional memory 60 for storing EPG information to allow faster retrieval of EPG information in response to user inputs from the user interface 30. The microprocessor issues control commands to video display generator (VDG) 68 based on user inputs. The VDG includes a standard red-blue-green (RBG) video generator 64, which takes the digital program schedule information sent by microprocessor 58 and converts it to an RBG format in accordance with a bit map for the screen

15

20

25

30

35

display. VDG 68 includes a video overlay device 66, which accepts the RBG video input, as well as the video signal from the tuner/demodulator 54. The overlay device 66 converts and combines the RGB signal with the signal from the tuned demodulator, and produces a composite output signal containing both the original video signal from the cable 20 and the EPG information. The composite video signal is then supplied to the screen 16 of display 12.

The EPG information received through cable 20 contains information relating to particular programs for different channels and different times. information may, for example, provide programming information for each channel on a cable system and for a time period ranging from several hours to several weeks. Typically, the broadcast EPG signals contain EPG information for the next 12 to 24 hours. The information relating to a particular program is referred to herein as a "record." Each record contains at least the channel on which the program will be shown and information relating to when the program will be shown. The record may also contain other information, such as the title of the program, a description of the program, the names of actors in the program, rating guides, whether the program is close-captioned, and whether the program is a repeat. Each record has an associated time range corresponding to the time during which the program will be shown. the associated time range for a particular record is the time range between and including the beginning and the ending time of the program. Alternatively, the time range for a program may be composed of several shorter time ranges that together span the time range of the program.

In the present invention, a user may view EPG information in a variety of ways. When a user is viewing a video 80, the user may display the EPG grid 90 by pressing the guide button 32 of user interface 30. The

10

15

20

25

30

35

user interface 30 sends a signal to the display 12, and in response the display 12 displays the EPG grid 90 on a portion of the screen 16. The remaining portion of the screen 16 continues to display the video 80. The display 12 may either reformat video 80 to continue to show all of the video 80 on the remaining portion of screen 16, or may overlay the EPG grid 90 on the video 80 so that a portion of the video 80 is blocked. FIG. 5 shows an exemplary display 12 after the guide button 32 has been depressed.

FIG. 5A shows the EPG grid 90 of FIG. 5 in more The EPG grid 90 is comprised of a plurality of cells 91, each corresponding to a particular record. cells 91 are arranged in rows and columns, with the rows corresponding to the various channels and the columns corresponding to different times. As can be seen, a particular cell may extend across several time columns. Each cell 91 may display, for example, the program title Channel information 94 may be displayed adjacent to the row containing cells corresponding to that channel, and times 96 are displayed above the cells. When the EPG grid 90 is initially displayed, a cursor 98 is displayed in the cell 91a which corresponds to the initial program, or initial record, currently displayed as the video 80 on the screen 16. The cursor 98 may take any form which indicates the presence of the cursor in the record, such as highlighting cell 91a, displaying cell 91a in a different color, adding an additional character to cell 91a, or any other distinguishing feature. Information may also be displayed in alternative formats, with other programming information included on the grid or in the cells.

To view different programming information, the user navigates the EPG grid 90 with the cursor control buttons 34a and 34b and 36a and 36b. The cursor control buttons 34a and b and 36a and b move the cursor 98 throughout the EPG grid 90. Cursor control buttons 34a

10

15

20

25

30

35

and b move the cursor 98 horizontally to the left and right from cell to cell along a particular row, while cursor control buttons 36a and b move the cursor vertically from cell to cell along a column corresponding to the associated time range of the initial record.

The present invention achieves its advantages by allowing a user to select with the user interface 30 records which are not currently displayed, and then displaying a new EPG grid 90a which contains the new selected record. The initial EPG grid 90 has an associated time range corresponding to the time ranges of the cells displayed in the EPG grid 90. For example, referring to FIG. 5, the associated time range of the EPG grid 90 would be 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., corresponding to the time intervals of the cells displayed on the EPG grid. The initial EPG grid 90 also has an associated range of channels corresponding to the rows of channels displayed on the EPG grid 90.

The cursor control buttons 34a, b may be used to select a new record which is not displayed on the current EPG grid 90. This allows the user to select program information for a program, or record, that is at a time that is different from the associated time range of the initial EPG grid 90. For example, the cursor control button 34b may be used to select a cell in the initial EPG grid 90 which is along the right margin of the EPG grid 90. The user could then press the cursor control button 34b again, which would select a new The new record selected is the record for the next program on the same channel. For example, referring to FIG. 5A, if the cursor occupied the cell corresponding to the program "ER," by pushing the cursor control button 34b the user would select a new record corresponding to the program which follows ER on channel 6.

When such a new record is selected, a new EPG grid 90a is displayed as shown, for example, in FIG. 6. The new EPG grid 90a includes the new record which has

10

15

20

25

30

35

been selected, together with other programming information for other times and other channels. grid 90a also has an associated time range, which corresponds to the time ranges of the newly displayed Thus, the new grid 90a has an associated time range that is different than the initial grid 90. associated range of channels of the initial EPG grid 90 is the same as the associated range of channels of the new EPG grid 90a. In addition, the screen 16 continues to display the video 80 while simultaneously displaying the new grid 90a. Thus, the user may enjoy uninterrupted viewing of the video 80 while scrolling through the EPG grid horizontally among different times to view different programming information, and displaying new EPG grids for time periods that are earlier or later than the associated time range of the initially displayed EPG grid.

In another embodiment of the invention, a user may view different information banners for different times while continuing uninterrupted viewing of a video. When the information banner button 38 is pushed, the user interface 30 sends a signal to the display 12, which in response displays an information banner 100 on a portion of the screen 16. An exemplary screen display is shown in FIG. 7, showing the video 80 and information banner 100. FIG. 7A shows an exemplary information banner 100 The information banner 100 contains, for in more detail. example, the title of the program, the start and ending time for the program, a description of the program, the channel information, rating information, whether the program is close-captioned, and whether the program is a repeat. Like an EPG grid, the information banner 100 also has an associated time range. This time range corresponds to the beginning and ending time of the program, or record. The associated range of channels for the information banner correspond to the channel of the record or program.

10

15

20

25

30

35

The user interface 30 may be used to select a different information banner 100a that has an associated time range that is different than the associated time range of the initially displayed information banner 100. By pressing the cursor control buttons 34a, b, the user selects a new record which corresponds to the same channel but next program in time. When the new record is selected, a new information banner 100a is displayed containing the information corresponding to the new record. FIG. 8 shows the results, for example, of selecting a new record having an associated time range that is different than the associated time range of the initial information banner 100. A new information banner 100a is displayed corresponding to the newly selected record while the video 80 is continued to be displayed on another portion of the screen 16.

The cursor control buttons 34a and b and 36a and b may be used therefore to navigate among different information banners in the same manner as the cursor control buttons are used to move the cursor to different records in an EPG grid. Thus, just as pressing cursor control buttons 36a and b will move a cursor vertically through an EPG grid to cells in adjacent rows corresponding to different channels, so too when an information banner is displayed, the cursor control buttons 36a and b will display different information banners for different channels but having the same or an overlapping associated time range. Pressing cursor control buttons 34a and b will display information banners for programs on the same channel but having different associated time ranges which are either earlier or later than the displayed information banner. essence, the system acts as if the user is navigating a virtual EPG grid using the cursor control buttons 34a and b and 36a and b. However, instead of displaying the EPG grid, the screen 16 displays the information banner

10

15

20

25

30

35

corresponding to the cell the cursor would occupy in the EPG grid.

Alternatively, other buttons on a user interface may be used to select new records. Thus, different records may be selected by using a numeric keypad, or other control buttons may be provided to allow new records to be selected.

In another aspect of the invention, the system allows the user to first display an EPG grid and then to display an information banner for a new record. an embodiment, a user would first display the EPG grid 90 by pressing the EPG guide button 32. The cursor would occupy the cell corresponding to the record of the video being displayed. Thus, the user would view a display as in FIG. 5. Using the cursor control buttons 34a and b, or other numeric keypads, the user may select a new record. The user may then press the information banner The system would then display an information button 38. banner 100, such as shown in FIG. 7, corresponding to the The information banner 100 for the new new record. record would have an associated time range corresponding to the new record. Since most records would have associated time ranges that are different than the associated time range of the initially displayed EPG grid 90, the information banner 100 would likely have an associated time range that is different than the associated time range of the initially displayed EPG grid 90.

Similarly, a user could initially display an information banner 100, and then display an EPG grid 90 containing the record corresponding to the initially displayed information banner, while continuing to display the video 80. In other words, the user would initially select a display as shown in FIG. 7 by pressing button 38, and then select a display corresponding to FIG. 5 by pressing button 32.

10

15

20

25

30

35

method of the present invention. FIGS. 4A and 4B illustrate the various aspects of the invention which allow new records to be selected which have associated time ranges that are different than the currently displayed EPG grid or information banner. In addition, FIGS. 4A and 4B illustrate one exemplary method for removing the EPG grid or information banner from the screen when it is no longer desired to view programming information.

In another aspect of the invention, an EPG grid and information banner may be displayed simultaneously with a video. FIG. 9 shows, for example, one embodiment of such a display in which an information banner 100 is displayed above a portion of the video 80, while the EPG grid 90 is displayed beneath the video 80. FIG. 10 shows an alternative arrangement in which the EPG grid 90 is partially blocked by an information banner 100, both of which are superimposed over a portion of the video 80. In such embodiments, a user could initially select an EPG grid 90 and corresponding information banner 100, and then select a new record and display a new information banner 100a simultaneously with the EPG grid 90, as, for example, beginning with the display such as shown in FIG. 5 and ending with the display as shown in FIG. 9 or FIG. 10. Such a display may be selected by pushing an overlay button 40 on user interface 30. In such an embodiment, both the EPG grid and information banners may be updated as described above.

The present invention finds utility alone in a display, and used in conjunction with other devices.

Thus, the present invention could be used to control the settings for a video recorder, either analog or digital. A user could scroll through either EPG grids or information banners to display the record corresponding to the program which is desired to be recorded. A user may either navigate the cursor to the desired cell, or

10

display the information banner of the desired program. Pressing a record button 42 on user interface 30 would then instruct the video recorder to record the desired program. Thus, the present invention would allow convenient programming of a video recorder while allowing uninterrupted viewing of a video.

The terms and expressions which have been employed in the foregoing specification are used therein as terms of description and not of limitation, and there is no intention, in the use of such terms and expressions, of excluding equivalents of the features shown and described or portions thereof, it being recognized that the scope of the invention is defined and limited only by the claims which follow.

CLAIMS

A method for displaying programming information, comprising:

- displaying a video comprising a plurality of frames on a portion of a display;
- displaying a first panel in response to a (b) first signal from a user interface, said first panel being displayed on another portion of said display simultaneously with said video, said first panel containing information from at least one of a plurality of records, said records containing programming information, each of said records having an associated time and an associated channel, and said first panel having an associated time range and an associated range of channels;
- selecting a record in response to a second (c) signal from said user interface; and
- (d) displaying simultaneously with said video a second panel, said second panel having an associated time range that is different than said associated time range of said first panel, and said second panel having an associated range of channels that is the same as the associated range of channels of said first panel.
- The method of claim 1 wherein said first 30 2. and second panels are information banners.
- The method of claim 1 wherein said first and second panels are EPG grids, each EPG grid containing 35 a plurality of cells, and said cells containing information from said records.

10

5

15

20

25

- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said first panel is removed from said display before said second panel is displayed.
- 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying at least one of another information banner and another EPG grid.
- 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said display 10 is a digital television.
 - 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said records are digitally transmitted with said video.
- 15 8. The method of claim 1 wherein said user interface is a remote control for a television.
 - 9. The method of claim 1 wherein each of said first and second panels comprise a minor portion of said display.
 - 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of programming a video recorder to record said selected record.

11. A method for displaying programming information, comprising:

- (a) displaying a video comprising a plurality of frames on a portion of a display;
- (b) displaying a first panel in response to a first signal from a user interface, said first panel being displayed on another portion of said display simultaneously with said video, said first panel being at least one of an EPG grid and an information banner;

35

- (c) selecting a record in response to a second signal from said user interface; and
- (d) displaying simultaneously with said video a second panel, said second panel being an EPG grid when said first panel is an information banner and said second panel being an information banner when said first panel is an EPG grid.
- 12. The method of claim 1 wherein said first panel is removed from said display before said second panel is displayed.
- 13. The method of claim 1 wherein said first
 15 panel, said video and said second panel are
 simultaneously displayed after said second panel is
 displayed.
- 14. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting another record and displaying at least one of another EPG grid and another information banner.
- 15. The method of claim 1 wherein said display 25 is a digital television.
 - 16. The method of claim 1 wherein said records are digitally transmitted with said video.
- 30 17. The method of claim 1 wherein said user interface is a remote control for a television.
- 18. The method of claim 1 wherein each of said first and second panels comprise a minor portion of said display.

19. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of programming a video recorder to record said selected record.

SYSTEM FOR DISPLAYING PROGRAMMING GUIDE INFORMATION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is provided for displaying programming information. A video comprising a plurality of frames is displayed on a portion of a display. A first panel is displayed in response to a first signal from a user interface. The first panel is displayed on another portion of the display simultaneously with the video. The first panel contains information from at least one of a plurality of records, the records containing programming information, each of the records having an associated time and an associated channel, and the first panel having an associated time range and an associated range of channels. A new record is selected in response to a second signal from a user interface. A second panel is displayed simultaneously with the video, the second panel having an associated time range that is different than the associated time range of the first panel and the second panel having an associated range of channels that is the same as the associated range of channels of the first panel.

5

10

15

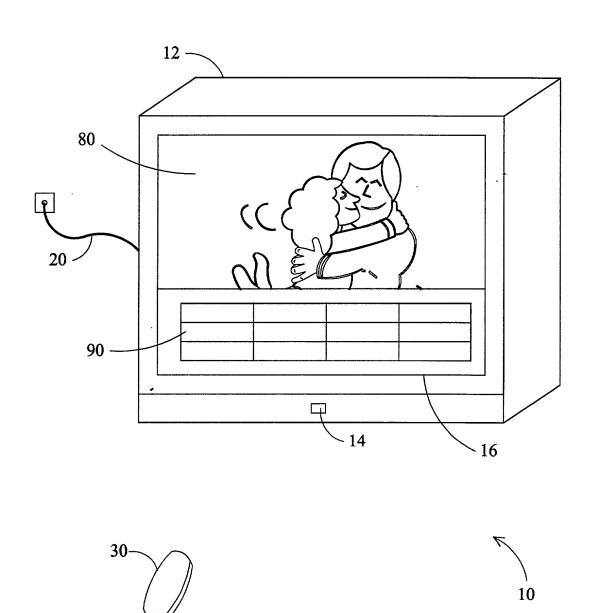


FIG. 1

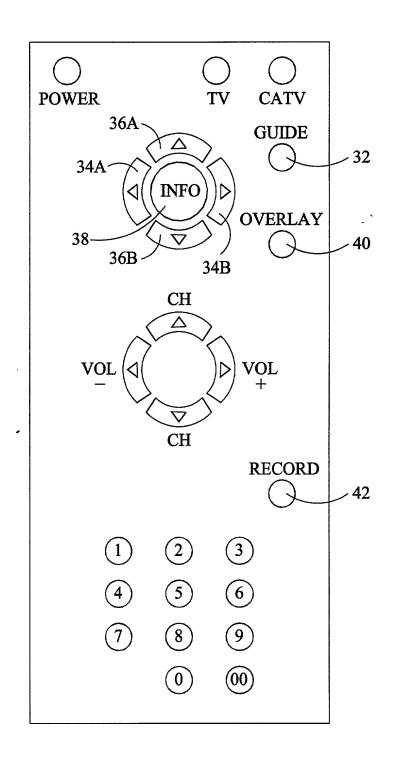


FIG. 2

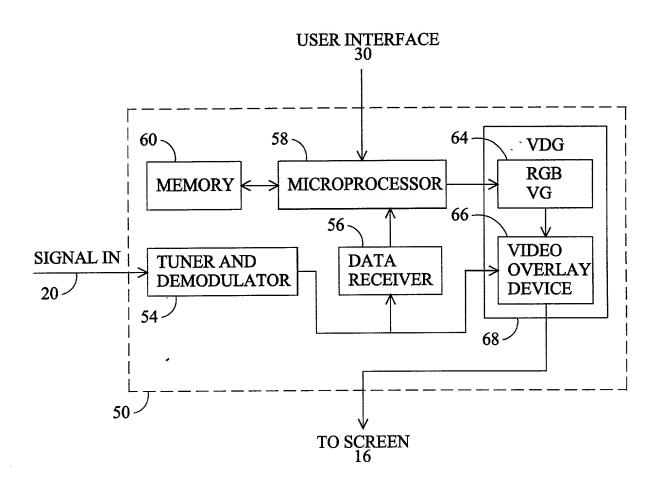
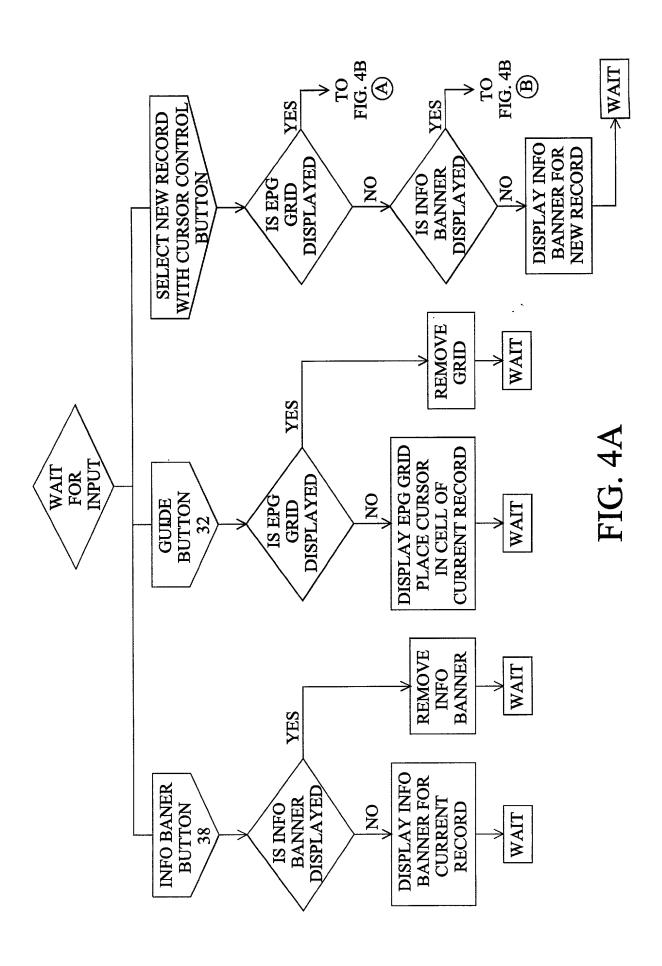


FIG. 3



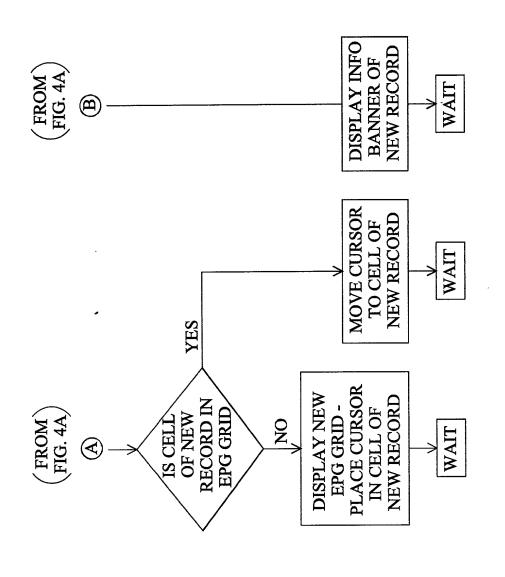
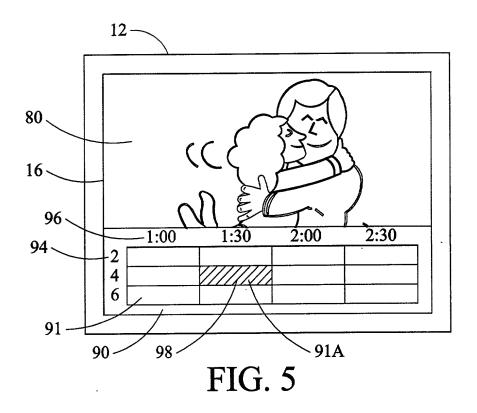


FIG. 4B



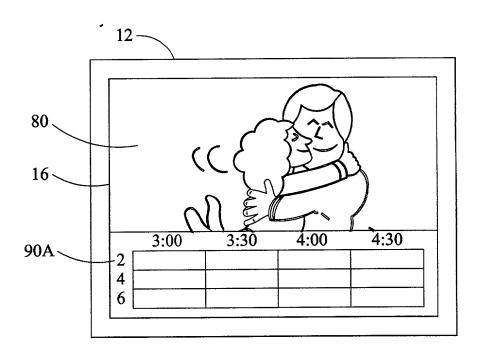


FIG. 6

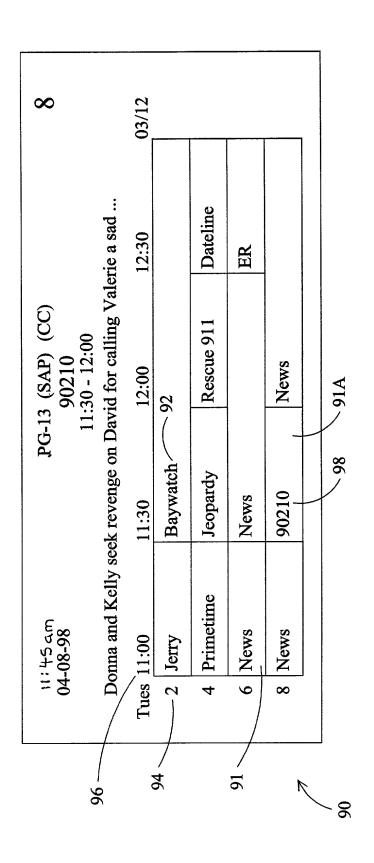


FIG. 5A

12:01:33PM 04-08-98

 ∞

PG-13 (SAP) (CC) 90210 11:30 - 12:00

Donna and Kelly seek revenge on David for calling Valerie a sad story. Brandon plans to move to New Jersey with his new girlfriend. His journalist instinct leads him to the trail of a mad man. Donna meets with her professor to discuss her acting abilities

1001

FIG. 7A

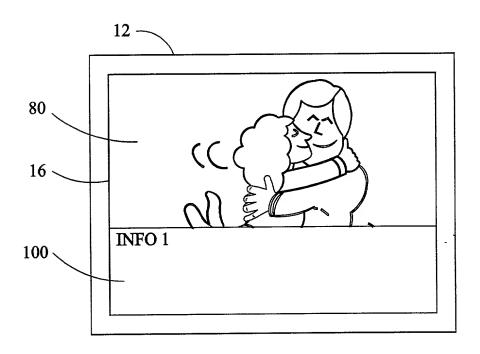


FIG. 7

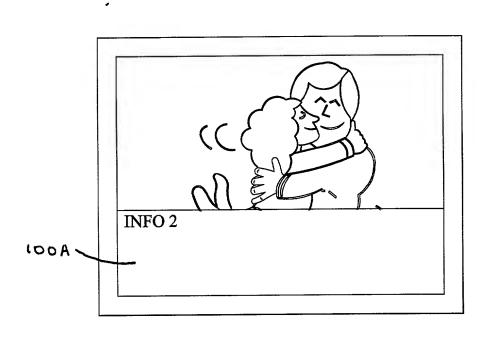
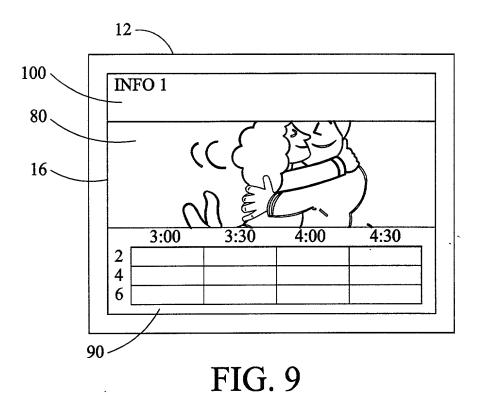


FIG. 8



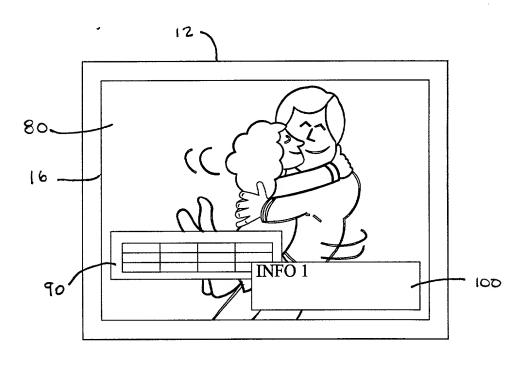


FIG. 10

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our names,

We believe we are the original, first and sole inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

SYSTEM FOR DISPLAYING PROGRAMMING GUIDE INFORMATION the specification of which

[x] is attached hereto.

was filed on		a₽
Application Serial	No.	
and was amended on		_ •
	(if applicable)	-

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

		Prior: <u>Clai</u> me		
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	[]	No.
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	[]	Мо

We hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120, of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Ser. No.) (Filing Date) (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Ser. No.) (Filing Date) (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

We hereby appoint Jacob E. Vilhauer, Jr., Reg. No. 24,885, Charles D. McClung, Reg. No. 26,568, Dennis E. Stenzel, Reg. No. 28,763, Donald B. Haslett, Reg. No. 28,855, William O. Geny, Reg. No. 27,444, J. Peter Staples, Reg. No. 30,690, Karen Fienberg Oster, Reg. No. 37,621, Kevin L. Russell, Reg. No. 38,292, Bruce W. DeKock, Reg. No. 40,585, Nancy J. Moriarty, Reg. No. 40,733, Timothy E. Siegel, Reg. No. 37,442, and Timothy A. Long. Reg. No. 28,876 all of the firm of Chernoff, Vilhauer, McClung & Stenzel, LLP, 600 Benj. Franklin Plaza, One S.W. Columbia, Portland, Oregon 97258, telephone number 503-227-5631, our attorneys, jointly and individually, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may

jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: July 26, 1999 Full name of inventor Residence

Citizenship

Full name of inventor

Residence

Citizenship

Mojgan J. Akhavan

35 AUBURN AISLE

Irvine, CA : . 92612 United States of America

Eugene P. Martinez, Jr. 2605 SE 67th Ave. Portland, OR 97206 United States of America